We Claim:

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A press for making a food patty, comprising:

a mould having an opening therethrough; and

a carrying component having a substantially flat panel and a handle affixed to said panel, said flat panel having a surface to contact a product to be pressed into a patty, said handle being sized to pass through said opening to allow said mould to move along said handle, said mould being positionable to overlie said panel and thereby facilitate the application of pressure to said product.

2. A press as defined in claim 1 wherein said mould is significantly heavier than said flat panel and acts as a weight to facilitate the application of pressure to said product.

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A press as defined in claim 2 wherein said mould is in the form of a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.

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- 4. A press as defined in claim 3 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said handle is centrally affixed to said flat panel.
- 5. A press as defined in claim 2 wherein said mould and carrying component are formed of stainless steel.
 - 6. A press as defined in claim 5 further including a loop affixed to a free end of said handle.
- 30 7. A press as defined in claim 3 wherein said disc has a diameter slightly greater than the diameter of said panel.

8. A press for making a food patty comprising:

a substantially flat panel having a generally planar, circular surface to contact food product to be pressed into a patty;

an upstanding member affixed to said panel; and

a weight member surrounding said upstanding member, said weight member being moveable along said upstanding member between a first position where said weight member overlies said panel to facilitate the application of force to said food product and a second position where said weight member is spaced from said panel.

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9. A press as defined in claim 8 wherein said weight member is in the form of a disc having top and bottom generally circular surfaces bridged by a smooth, peripheral sidewall and wherein said flat panel corresponds generally in shape to said bottom surface.

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- 10. A press as defined in claim 9 wherein said opening is positioned at the centre of said disc and wherein said upstanding member is centrally affixed to said flat panel.
- 20 11. A press as defined in claim 10 wherein said weight member, upstanding member and flat panel are formed of stainless steel.
 - 12. A press as defined in claim 11 further including a loop affixed to a free end of said upstanding member.

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- 13. A press as defined in claim 12 wherein said loop is elongate and acts as a retainer to inhibit said weight member from being removed from said tubular member.
- 30 14. A press as defined in claim 9 wherein said disc has a diameter slightly greater than the diameter of said panel.

A method of forming a patty from food product using a food press, said food press including a carrying component having a flat panel to contact said food product and a handle affixed to said flat panel to allow said flat panel to be positioned relative to said food product, and a mould moveable along said handle, said method comprising the steps of:

placing food product on a surface;

positioning the flat panel on said food product with said mould overlying the flat panel;

applying pressure to said food press to flatten said food product and form a patty of desired thickness;

removing excess food product extending beyond the periphery of said flat panel and mould;

moving the mould away from said flat panel; and separating said flat panel from said patty.

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- 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said excess food product is removed by running a finger along the peripheral sidewall of said mould.
- 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the mould is moved away from said flat panel by lifting said mould upwardly along said handle.

